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While Indian cinema's representation of Dalit lives largely oscillates between upper caste savior complex to appeals to their supposed innate goodness, [@pa.ranjith](#) is crafting art that showcases our lives outside the upper caste gaze. He is making movies for us! 1/



Growing up, the discriminatory experiences we faced in our schools/colleges, hurtful comments made in passing by our friends, soul crushing actions of our lovers and reactions of our parents who were trying their best to shield us, left us feeling that we were the problem. 2/

#NatchathiramNagargiradhu scene where Rene's tells Arjun why she is the way she is is a master piece. Rene validates our experiences and the defense mechanisms we build up to survive. Rene breaks it to us that the problem was never us but the casteist society in which we exist.3/

I wish I saw a movie like [#NatchathiramNagargiradhu](#) when I was much younger, at a time when I did not have the political understanding or the language to make sense of the casteist experiences that happened as part of everyday normal life. 4/

[#NatchathiramNagargiradhu](#) verbalizes and visualizes nuanced ideas around caste, gender, sexual orientation, love and society in a manner that is accessible to masses. The movie is as much educational as it is entertaining. It is revolutionary in the discussions it generates. 5/

For generations popular Indian cinema has normalized harassing and violently mistreating women as the hero's "acts of love" towards the heroine. Hatsoff to [@pa.ranjith](#)'s for showing on the big screen what respectful and loving relationships between equal partners could look like. n/n

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